

Written by
Josiah R. Lewis
4th Mich. Cav. Co. K

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On the morning of Dec. 26th, 1862 we
broke camp at Nashville Tenn. On the
Campaign for "Murfreesborough" Tenn., we met
the rebels at Lawrence Ten. about fifteen miles
out from Nashville and our Regiment being
in advance, was ordered to form lines
draw Sabers and Charge. We were confronted
by Wheeler Cav. Div. We drove them out of Lawrence.

About four o'clock P.M. it was a cold
and raining all the time went into Camp.

About a mile east of Lawrence, Cold and
hungry and wet through, our rations all
spoilt, went to bed hungry, but that was
all right. This was my first experience
in a solid battle. I was very much
might expecting to be attacked every minute.

The next morning about four o'clock
boots and saddles on and without any
breakfast was fighting all day until after
dark and then went into Camp about the
same place where we camped the night
before. During the day we had two men
wounded. Without anything to eat for 36 hours.

Here let me state that during the day we
had found a plantation where ever there

camp, a few of us made a stand on the plank
chickens, ham, ham, and other stuff, went back
made a fire and cooked our supper and when we
d on our table, (the table was a rubber poncho
ground) I heard and wrote up the captain and the
him to come and have some supper, all of the
the captain having been an old soldier told me
even faster and every bone and hair there up for
called on in the morning and we down so and in
the plank call on we had found nothing. On the
the 24th we were aroused by heavy cannonade
boats and shells rained and we fifteen man
on the night and hard. We know the rule about the
day and at night, out on our horses in line of battle
morning of the 29th, went into the fight about daylight
home until 11 o'clock P.M., it was one constant battle
to eat. Raped our some all night with hitting straps
A horse or our horse could not get away. On the
30th we knew, had took and fason and coffee in
and fence we started all about the line and require
in cattle I had one say "we just got in loss

was ordered into battle" but says and "gives a more exact
letter on a full stomach. He knew the rede about four
that day and about four o'clock P.M. made a Baker charge
my horse head was shot off with a cannon ball and he fell
Some way of the cotton rows and I fell between them and
him, fastened fast. So I pulled my head off from trying to
from under him. In the morning of Dec. 31 I was released
when Bosta and Walter rounded. The rede turned the
moving to our center and we were ordered to draw back
and charge and I want to here state that here where
made and Bosta with the rede we turned them
such a position that we saw could strike three shifts. Bosta
division went into camp and we did. He turned the
of battle in about one half hour and they were getting on
our way just as fast as they could. When after our
were straightened out and all day on balance of the
in line of battle, we then dismounted ^{restored} ^{morning} had
and bacon and coffee and sugar, and the night of Dec. 31 we
back to the rear and had a fair night's rest ^{until about}
3 o'clock Jan. 1 was ordered back to Lawrence to give Det
John Morgan his medicine. He found him about 2 miles

of Lawrence and put him and his command to flight and returned to the front. Along about 8 P.M. was ordered to the extreme front to extend Picquet's line of battle and in the morning of Jan. 21st about 5 o'clock A.M. the enemy moved their columns deep and sharp to take battery and such moving down of men, the were 24 pieces besides 2 edge guns and paid when they thought had the battery the guns. I rose up behind the batteries and poured into their ranks such a deadly fire they recoiled and there it was the charge was sounded and on we charged. About 4,000 strong and the troops were shot and the rebels were stopped until we had them miles the other side of Stone river, there no good a small detail of a battle of Murfreesborough. had enough so you see what a robbery went through while charging down, on the ground where the rebels lay burned their dead, you could see the arms and legs, stretching out of ground where they had not time to bury them, and our men the capture of Stone river had to bury them. Now we had in the field of stone river about 20,000 killed and wounded. It was a hard contest field. And I had many heavily wounded comrades who gave their at that battle and many a tear was shed when they came to put their dead comrades home wither, why is it that one old soldier should think so much of their comrades because they were baptised in blood, they stood shoulder to shoulder, to put down their rebel and give the posterity on of the grandest country that the sun has ever shone on and make it possible for you and me.

Douglas A. DUNBAR

650 N. Lake St.

GRAND STAIRS IL 60030

4th Michigan Cavalry

1st 3 pages of File
and

1 page with the
name of

George W. Dunbar
on p. 48

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broke camp at Nashville Tenn. On the
Campaign for "Murfreesborough" Tenn., we met
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by Wheeler Cav. Div. We drove them out of Lawrence.

About four o'clock P.M. it was a cold
and raining all the time went into Camp.

About a mile east of Lawrence, Cold and
hungry and wet through, our rations all
spoilt, went to bed hungry, but that was
all we had. This was my first experience
in a solid battle. Day or night we were
night expecting to be attacked every minute.

The next morning about four o'clock
boots and saddles on and without any
breakfast was fighting all day until after
dark, and then went into Camp about the
same place where we camped the night
before. ~~As soon as day~~ we had two days
unwounded. Without anything to eat for 36 hours.

Here let me state that during the day we
had found a plantation where everything
seemed to be in abundance, but we had
not time to do anything for we would have been

Example, a pear of me made a stand on the pea
chickens, Ham, Ham, and other stuff, we had
made a fire and cooked our supper and when
of an air table, (the table was a rubber pancho
ground) I heard and woke up the captain and
him to come and have some supper, All of
the Captain having been an old soldier told me
even feather and every bone and burn them up
called on in the morning and we dove so and
the plankton call on we had found nothing. On the
the 29th we were arrested by a heavy Comrade
boats and the whole surrounded and we fought in
on the fight good and hard. We know the rules about
long and at night, out on our horses in line of batt
morning of the 29th, we went into the fight ahead daylight
Some night 11 o'clock P.M., it was one constant hat
to eat. Hoped snow come all night with hatching in
Ammie so our horse could not get away. On the
30th we drove, had tack and fason and coffee in
and fence we started all along the line and reg
was better and let me say "see you get in

was ordered into battle" but says and "gives a more
better on a full stomach. He drove the rebels as
that day and had four o'clock P.M. made a bar
my horse head was shot off with a cannon ball
Droeswarp of the Cotton rowe and I fell between
him, fastened fast so I pulled my head off for
from under him. On the morning of Dec. 31
when Bosta and LaHee wounded. The rebels then
sprang to our center and we were ordered to
and charge and I want to here state that he
made real havoc with the rebels we then
gave a position that our cars could work three
decision went into camp and we did the two
of battle in about one half hour and they were
our way just as far as they could. When of
were straightened out and all day or both
in line of battle, we then drank ~~some~~ ^{raising}
and bacon and coffee and sugar, and the night
back to the rear and had a fair nights rest
3 o'clock P.M. I was ordered back to Lawrence
John Morgan his medicine. We found him slow

of Lawrence and put him and his command to
formed to the front. Along about 8 P.M. were ordered to
front to attack Picquet in line of battle and in the
Jan. 21st about 5 o'clock A.M. the enemy moved the
deep and charge to take battery and such moving down
were 24 pieces besides 2 deep guns and just when the
had the battery the Guard. A force up behind the battery
into their ranks such a deadly fire they received and the
a charge was sounded and on we charged. About 4 o'clock
took the great works and the rebels were stopped with
miles the other side of Stone river, there we found a small
battle of Murfreesborough. And enough so you see the
went through while charging down, on the ground where
burned their dead, you could see the arms and legs, etc
ground where they had not time to bury them. How we
the capture of Stone river had to hurry them. How we
of stone river about 20,000 killed and wounded. At Stone
field. And I had many dearly loved comrades who
at that battle and many a tear was shed when they
their dead comrades. How children, why is it that one old
think so much of their comrades because they were
blood, they stood shoulder to shoulder, to put down
and give the posterity on of the grandest country that
ever shone on and make it possible for you and me

Murfreesboroughⁿ Battle

On the morning of Dec 26th 1862 we broke camp at Nashville Tenn. On the campaign for Murfreesborough Tenn we met the rebels at Laverne Tenn about fifteen miles out of Nashville and our Regiment being in advance was ordered to form lines draw Sabers and charge. We were confronted by Wheeler Cav. Div. We drove them out of Laverne

About four o'clock P.M. it was a cold and raining all the time went into camp

About a mile east of Laverne, cold and hungry and _____ through over rations all spoilt went to bed hungry, but that was a soldiers life this was my first experience in a Soled battle. Layed on our arms all night expecting to be attacked every minute

the next morning about four o'clock boots and saddles sounded and without any breakfast was fighting all day until after dark and then went into Camp about the same place where we camped the night before. During the day we had two men wounded Without anything to eat for 36 hours

Here let me state that during the day we had found a plantation where everything seemed to be in abundance but we dared not touch anything for we would have been arrested for it was strictly forbidden to

forage. But that night after we went into camp a few of us made a raid on this plantation and got chickens, flour, ham, and other stuff. We went back to camp and made a fire and cooked our supper and when we had it on our table (the table was a rubber poncho spread on the ground) I went and woke up the Captain and the Lieut. asked him to come and have some supper. All of them did and the Captain having been an old soldier told us to pick up every feather and every bone and burn them up for we would be called on in the morning and we done so and in the morning the planter call on us but found nothing. On the morning of the 28th we were aroused by a heavy Canonade in our front boots and Saddles sounded and in fifteen minutes we were in the fight good and hard. We drove the rebs about three miles that day and at night, sat on our horses in line of battle all night. In the morning of the 29th we went into the fight about day light and from that time until 11 o'clock P.M. it was one constant battle and nothing to eat. Bayed around arms all night with hitching strap tied to our arms so our horse could not get away. On the morning of the 30th we drew had tack and bacon and coffee in line of battle and

fires were started all along the line and regime
to cook our coffee and let me say here "we just
got in doors when we was ordered into battle
But boys and girls ~~can~~ a man can fight better
on a full stomach. We drove the rebs about four
miles that day and about four O'clock P.M. made
a Saber charge where my horses head was
shot off with a cannon ball and he fell
crossways of the cotten rows and I fell between
them and under him fastened fast
So I pulled my boot off from trying to get
from under him. On the morning of Dec 31
I was sleeping when Boots and Saddles sounde
The rebs turned the right wing to our
center and we were ordered to draw sab
and charge and I want to here state
that here where we made sad have with
the rebs we trenched them in such
a position that our Cav could whip
three shift. Our caision went ~~into~~ into
~~into~~ whip and we did We turned the
tide of battle in about one half hour and
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as they could then after our lines were
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the day in line of battle We then drawed
rasions had tack and bacon and coffee
and sugar, and the night of Dec 31 went

back to the rear and had a fair nights rest until about 3 o'clock A.M. Jan. 1 was ordered back to Laverne to give _____ John Morgan his medicine. We found him about 2 miles east of Laverne and put him and his command to flight and returned to the front. Along about 8 P.M. was ordered to the extreme front to stand picket in the line of battle and in the morning of Jan. 2~~1~~ about 5 o'clock A.M. the enemy massed their column 8 deep and charge to take battery and such moving down of men there were 24 picks besides 2 serge guns and just when they thought they had the battery the Quart. A rose up behind the batterys and poured into their rank such a deadly fire they wavered and then it was that a charge was sounded and on we charged. About 40,000 strong and they took breast works and the rebels never stopped until we had them 5 miles the other side of Stone river. This is just a small hatch of the battle of Murfreesborough but enough so you see what a soldier went through while charging down on the ground where the rebs had burned their dead, you could see the arms and legs sticking out of the ground where they had not time to bury them and our men after the capture of Stones

river had to bury them. Now we lost in the battle of Stone River about 30,000 killed and wounded. It was a hard contested field and I had many dearly loved Commanders who gave their lives at that battle and man a tear was shed when they came to put away their dead commanders. Now children why is it that one ~~st~~ soldier should think so much of their comrades. Because they were baptized in blood, they stood shoulder to shoulder to put down this rebellion and give to posterity one of the grandest countries that the sun has ever shone on and make it possible for you and me.